

**EXPRESS MAIL: EV 318425065US**  
**DATE DEPOSITED: August 4, 2003**

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants:	Lawrence A. Denny and Edward E. Patterson	) Group Art: 2857
		)
		)
Serial No.:	Not Yet Assigned	) Examiner: E. Raymond
		)
Filed:	Herewith	)
		)
For:	OILFIELD EQUIPMENT IDENTIFICATION	)
	METHOD AND APPARATUS	) <b>Atty. Dkt. No. 1950.022</b>

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**List of Sections Forming Part of This  
Information Disclosure Statement**

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. ☒ Preliminary Statements
2. ☒ Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449)
3. ☒ Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications
4. ☒ Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted
5. ☒ Identification of Person(s) Making this Information Disclosure Statement

## **Section 1. Preliminary Statements**

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

## **Section 2. Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449)**

[X] A completed Form PTO/SB/08A and/or Form PTO/SB/08B is attached hereto.

## **Section 3. Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications (Information Not Listed in Form PTO/SB/08A and/or Form PTO/SB/08B (Formerly PTO-1449))**

The exploration, development and completion of an oil or gas field requires numerous pieces of oilfield equipment, such as but not limited to casing, drill pipe, packers, oilfield valves and other equipment. The cost of this equipment is relatively high. Accordingly, it is desirable to optimally use and/or reuse many pieces of oilfield equipment for subsequent drilling and development operations. However, equipment undergoes considerable stress during drilling and completion operations. For example, pieces of oilfield equipment, such as drill pipe, may suffer from material fatigue which may ultimately result in failure of the drill pipe. The failure of downhole equipment will require a suspension of drilling operations to recover the remainder of the drill string and other related equipment. It will be appreciated that the recovery of a drill string can be an expensive and time-consuming operation, which should be avoided, if possible.

Accordingly, it is desirable to maintain complete service records relating to various pieces of oilfield equipment, such as, but not limited to, drill pipe, for the purposes of determining fatigue and other factors relating to the use of the equipment. By maintaining an accurate, detailed record of the use, inspections, repair and maintenance for each piece of oilfield equipment, the fatigue and other factors relating to the use of the piece of oilfield equipment can be monitored. Thus, the piece of oilfield equipment can be taken out of use before such piece of oilfield equipment fails.

More than one year prior to the filing date of the above-referenced application, the Applicants were selling an oilfield equipment database to manually maintain the rotating and non-rotating usage of each piece of oilfield equipment in a drill string. This oilfield equipment database did not automatically and continuously monitor the rotating and non-rotating usage of each piece of oilfield equipment. Rather, the drill operator had to manually operate the oilfield equipment database to switch it from a rotating monitoring mode to a non-rotating monitoring mode, and vice - versa. In the rotating monitoring mode, the oilfield equipment database incremented the rotating usage of each piece of oilfield equipment in the drill string. In the non-rotating mode, the oilfield equipment database incremented the non-rotating usage of each piece of oilfield equipment in the drill string. If the oilfield equipment database was inadvertently and accidentally not manually switched between the rotating and non-rotating monitoring modes, the information in the oilfield equipment database may no longer be accurate.

#### **Section 4. Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted**

This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application Serial No 10/261,551, filed on 09/30/2002.

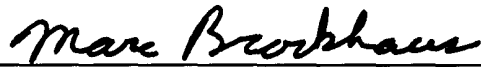
The references identified on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A were submitted to, and/or cited by, the Office in the prior application(s) and therefore, are not required to be provided in this application.

**Section 5. Identification of Person(s) Making this INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

The person making this statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information:

- ☒ supplied by the inventor(s).
- ☐ supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)).
- ☒ in the attorney's file.

Respectfully submitted,



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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)  
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			<b>Application Number</b>	Not Yet Assigned	
			<b>Filing Date</b>	Herewith	
			<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Lawrence A. Denny	
			<b>Group Art Unit</b>	2857	
			<b>Examiner Name</b>	Unknown	
			<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	1950.022	
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENT						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	4,202,490		Gunkei et al.	05/13/1980	
	AB	4,497,029		Kiyokawa	01/29/1985	
	AC	4,533,823		Vittorio	08/06/1985	
	AD	4,569,421		Sandstedt	02/11/1986	
	AE	4,578,991		Nowlin	04/01/1986	
	AF	4,616,322		Niwa et al.	10/07/1986	
	AG	4,628,458		Ohta et al.	12/09/1986	
	AH	4,698,631		Kelly, Jr. et al	10/06/1987	
	AI	4,720,626		Nishikawa et al.	01/19/1988	
	AJ	4,742,470		Juengel	05/03/1988	
	AK	4,745,557		Pekar et al.	05/17/1988	
	AL	4,780,599		Baus	10/25/1988	
	AM	4,818,855		Mongeon et al.	04/04/1989	
	AN	4,850,009		Zook et al.	07/18/1989	
	AO	5,099,227		Geiszlter et al.	03/24/1992	
	AP	5,1142,128		Perkin et al.	08/25/1992	
	AQ	5,157,687		Tymes	10/20/1992	
	AR	5,202,680		Savage	04/13/1993	
	AS	5,221,831		Geiszlter	06/22/1993	
	AT	5,225,996		Weber	07/06/1993	

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Compleat If Known</b>	
				<b>Application Number</b>	Not Yet Assigned
				<b>Filing Date</b>	Herewith
				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Lawrence A. Denny
				<b>Group Art Unit</b>	2857
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	Unknown
				<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	1950.022
Sheet	2	of	3		

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)  
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			First Named Inventor	Lawrence A. Denny	
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			Examiner Name	Unknown	
			Attorney Docket Number	1950.022	
Sheet	3	of	3		

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